

Parks in Germany

Is Germany a country of parks as well? Indeed it is. There is the magnificent Englischer Garten in Munich, the blossoming gardens around the river Alster in Hamburg, the flower beds of the German Federal Garden Show in the capital, Bonn, situated on the Rhine, and over a thousand other parks including whole forests. Again and again the landscape thickens to a park. Where a park

transcends the borders of a town and takes over the woody hills both architects and gardeners sail with the wind. A good example is the Gruga Park in Essen, in the Ruhr area: it was laid out in 1929 and comprises waterworks, a botanic garden and exhibition halls. Or the Wilhelmshöhe mountain park at Kassel: in its midst is the residence built in 1786 which was temporarily

occupied by Napoleon III. Or Ludwigsburg on the Neckar with its baroque palace and park and a fairy-tale garden. The beautiful island of Malnau on Lake Constance, on the other hand, is a different kind: here the Swedish Count Bernadotte looks after his gardens with Mediterranean vegetation. Why not make a tour through the parks of Germany?



Ludwigsburg
Gruga-Park/Essen

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Mexico summit the last chance, Brandt warns

The North-South summit this month in Mexico must take direct action immediately, says Willy Brandt, chairman of the Brandt Commission and leader of the German Social Democrats.

He made the appeal, in a letter to all states who will attend the conference, because of what he said was the essential worsening of the economic situation in many developing countries. Explaining his comments in Bonn, Brandt regretted serious shortcomings in international cooperation on energy bodies and in understanding countries. There was, he said, a shortage of new energy and of political determination. The summit was a fine opportunity for a political dialogue which alone could lead to a fresh start.

He listed five points that were characteristic of the poor state of current international negotiations:

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WIRTSCHAFTS- UND FINANZZEITUNG

- The East-West conflict strongly affected the North-South dialogue.
- The deep-seated crisis of the world economy.
- The heavy indebtedness of more and more Third World countries.
- The alarming increase in food shortages in some developing countries, especially in Africa, that could no longer be referred to as developing countries because, as he put it, they were well on the way to underdevelopment.
- International negotiations had ground to a halt and finance problems remained unsolved.

This being the case, the SPD leader said, an immediate programme of action in critical sectors was called for, such as the proposals made by his commission.

Key features of any such programme must include a worldwide food concept, a global energy strategy, additional finance to ensure national economic stability and reforms of international financial institutions.

In his letter to the 22 heads of state and government Herr Brandt urged them to spare no efforts to ensure that global talks, still delayed, could begin early next year.

That, he said, would be a substantial step towards improving the climate of international development cooperation. In this connection the Mexico summit was the last chance.

Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt had told a trade union congress the evening beforehand that the oil countries must be told in no uncertain terms that the results would be catastrophic if Third World countries continued to have to pay high oil prices.

Aid to the developing world must not consist of exaggerated technology; it must concentrate mainly on agriculture so as to solve food problems.

(Handelsblatt, 30 September 1981)

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A state visit to Spain

Bonn President Karl Carstens (right) and his wife, Veronika (second from left) are welcomed on their arrival in Madrid for a state visit to Spain by King Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia. (Photo: dpa)

Genscher slips in quietly to get an Arab opinion

Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher stopped over in Qatar en route for Peking. Qatar is an important Opec member and strongly opposed to communist influence in the Arab world.

His host was the emir, Khalifa Bin Hamad al-Thani, whose brother, Foreign Minister Sheikh Suhaim Bin Hamad al-Thani, visited Bonn in 1979.

Qatar is one of half a dozen petroleum-exporting states in the Persian Gulf that are members of a joint council on cooperation in political, military, economic, cultural and social affairs.

Herr Genscher as a keen supporter of regional cooperation has lent his cooperation his express support from the outset. But his bid to link the Gulf states with the European Community by a cooperation agreement in view of tension emanating from Afghanistan and Iran has yet to meet with much support. Given difficulties in the Arab world the Gulf states evidently are not keen on being too eagerly embraced by third parties.

So Herr Genscher, despite his positive attitude, preferred to maintain a low profile in Qatar.

He was naturally keen to learn in

greater detail how his hosts saw the current situation in the Middle East. Little had been heard from the Gulf states on his subject of late.

Neighbouring Saudi Arabia recently proposed a plan that in principle acknowledged, for the first time, Israel's right to exist, although reiterating demands that Israel withdraw from occupied territories.

Bonn noted with interest that French President Francois Mitterrand had stated during his visit to Saudi Arabia that:

"One may discuss individual points but we approve of the spirit of this initiative."

Bonn experts took a no less positive view. Herr Genscher had not yet commented in public.

This restraint was very much in keeping with the entire current outlook of the Bonn government on the Middle East and intended to avoid disturbing the US government's progress towards a viewpoint.

Bonn hopes to learn more soon about President Reagan's attitude on the Middle East. Important pointers should be provided by the visits to Washington by King Hussein of Jordan and Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

The German tanks Saudi Arabia would like to order continue to play a significant role in Bonn's calculations.

The Bonn coalition can be expected to conclude its debate on the principles of future arms exports policy soon. A decision will then have to be taken on whether or not to supply Saudi Arabia with Leopard tanks.

It seems reasonable to assume that the US decision on Avco for Saudi Arabia will have some bearing on the decision Bonn reaches. *Berni Conrad* (Die Welt, 30 September 1981)

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■ THE BALANCE OF POWER

Either realism in alliance or Russian roulette for the unattainable

The superpowers are talking again, partly because Bonn has put pressure on both sides. To what extent can the Federal Republic of Germany help? Foreign policy in this day and age can only be pursued within an alliance framework, as even America and Russia have found.

This leads to irritation and deep frustration both for them and for medium-sized countries that live on borrowed power in areas where the confrontation risk is high.

It prompts calls for radical changes in keeping with the moral claims of one country or the feelings of power of another.

Yet foreign policy aims can only be attained by cooperation and consideration within the relevant alliance.

The only alternative is an all-or-nothing game of Russian roulette for the sake of some utopian hope or other.

The state of an alliance can, of course, influence member-countries' foreign policy in a two-way traffic, so smaller members need not necessarily forgo foreign policy aims of their own.

This is currently truer of the West than it is of Eastern Europe, yet there too the Soviet Union is obliged to bear in mind the interests and stability of Warsaw Pact countries.

A country such as the Federal Republic of Germany cannot afford to dispense with foreign policy aims in accordance with its national interest or with what the German public would like to see.

But these aims must be incorporated in an alliance policy from which it cannot extricate itself without upsetting the apple cart in a poorly predictable manner in an area of some importance in world affairs.

The upset could, moreover, plunge the great powers into an uncontrollable situation of, possibly, direct confrontation.

Bonn must acknowledge this limitation to its national leeway just as it must on no account renounce the attainment of its own aims and objectives.

This is a tall order that holds little prospect of clear success and scant hope of emotional satisfaction.

Prospects for independent foreign policy also appear poorer at a stage of heightening confrontation between the two bloc leaders.

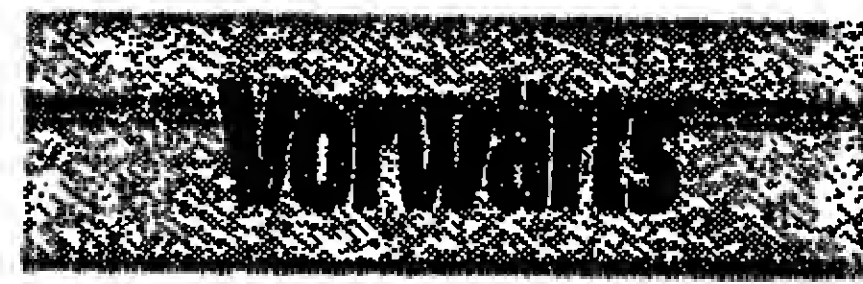
So problems currently seen as part of the North-South conflict can clearly only be solved in the long term within the framework of East-West understanding.

Prospects of this seem poorer, if anything, than a few years ago because the United States sees its role in world affairs even more limitedly than in the past in terms of its own economic and strategic interests.

This is something the Soviet Union has long done in respect of its relations with the Third World.

This US counter-move could conceivably end the process of learning in the Soviet Union by which, some Western politicians had hoped, Moscow might be moved to pursue a more constructive and far-sighted policy on Third World problems.

Yet to see these difficulties is not to forget that North-South ties are a growing problem that in the long term is no



less dangerous than the East-West conflict.

But the East-West conflict is something advocates of *realpolitik* in Moscow, Washington and many Western European capitals give greater priority.

Awareness of North-South problems and commitment on them may have increased in the Federal Republic, but Bonn's will and ability to help seem even more limited than in the past.

The economic difficulties of growth rates on the decline are making all Western European countries more inclined than ever to pursue national interests of their own than to opt for foresight and cooperation.

In this context commitments to the Third World are only credible when accompanied by readiness to help and to make sacrifices at home.

By the same token, calls for thrift only sound a credible note when they testify to a more far-reaching political perspective than the desire to balance the budget.

Scant leeway remains in the conflict, what with the unfulfillable demands by the Third World and the tougher approach adopted by major pact partners.

We have seen how it can be put to good use nonetheless, given government support, if not official backing.

Via the Socialist International Willy Brandt and Hans-Jürgen Wischnewski sounded a necessary warning and made useful suggestions for a solution to the conflict in El Salvador.

At first glance this may seem to have been a thankless and pointless effort, but moves of this kind can be useful contributions.

They can help one to recognise connections and to see possibilities for solutions that in the long term may provide an insight into Third World problems.

This is more important than laments that all bids to influence Soviet policy on Afghanistan have been ineffective.

The limited opportunities to exert influence are clearly apparent in the more immediate context of foreign policy.

Bids by Bonn to boost political integration in the European Community are hamstrung by the need to restrict financial contributions to the EEC's Brussels budget.

They are also limited by France's independent economic policy, with Presi-

dent Mitterrand proposing a far from clearly outlined European initiative.

Yet M. Mitterrand's socialist economic policies are governed by the French national interest and heading for a confrontation with France's Common Market partners.

There is no sign yet of a Bonn concept to deal with this clash of national interests in the interplay of European objectives.

The weight Bonn's carries depends to no small extent on what the Europeans have in common.

It follows that the influence Bonn is in a position to exert on important aspects of the East-West conflict is weakened by differences of opinion with Britain and France.

Yet Bonn has still managed to accomplish much of importance in this sector. In the late 60s German moves were instrumental in making headway on détente.

The superpowers were predisposed towards détente but there was still resistance to the necessary reappraisal. Progress on new and practical concepts was the only way to overcome it.

In the second half of the 70s Chancellor Schmidt sought in vain to make the Soviet leaders realise how dangerous the vicious circle of their eurostrategic armament was.

He also tried to impress on the United States the need to redress the balance of power.

In the summer of 1980 Herr Schmidt succeeded in Moscow in at least persuading the Soviet union to agree to negotiate. Bonn definitely shares responsibility for talks now having been scheduled.

In ties with the United States it may be effective to say that Bonn is under domestic pressure on one issue or another or that a policy jeopardises West German stability.

But these are points that in dealings with the Soviet Union are likely to have the opposite effect. They will reduce Soviet readiness to limit or reduce its missile potential in Europe or to make concessions on other issues.

So it is not enough for Bonn to urge the superpowers to start talking because the mere fact that US and Soviet envoys have met relieves domestic pressure in Germany.

If Bonn is to exert influence on the course and the success of talks on nuclear armament in Europe and on the East-West conflict it will need to present clearer concepts than hitherto.

They will have to take into consideration not only the ideal eventuality of a

zero option but also the intermediate steps.

Without a definition of these intermediate moves East-West talks can easily be limited to an exchange of propaganda arguments.

What if the Americans and the Russians were to come to the conclusion that Bonn could not in any case domestic reasons, sustain the missile modernisation decision?

Their interest in negotiating a controlled limitation of Eurostrategic missiles would then decline.

So Bonn's endeavours in world affairs can only be effective inasmuch as they retain credibility in both domestic and foreign policy.

A further important factor is the supply of practical concepts for strategic arms limitation that have hitherto been proposed.

This must be done regardless of whether it might give rise to further Washington or Moscow.

That talks are to be held at all, part, a feather in Bonn's cap, but alone is not enough. Despite deep

prejudice German hopes must be pressed more clearly than in the past in the superpowers resume talks.

Bonn must also outline in greater detail the form and practice of arms limitation in Europe as it likes to see it.

It must go into greater detail in bringing influence to bear on the West dialogue and to retain its credibility.

No government can aim at a peaceful side by side. Political peace cannot do so either, whereas peace movements may.

It would be more important to convince the German public landscape is beginning to change. In the spring of 1981 the environmentalists moved into the legislature and out of the FDP.

Trend has been confirmed in Lower Saxony where the environmentalists won 3.6 per cent of the vote. This figure is a state-wide average before elections.

The fact is that wherever the environmentalists stood for office they won more votes than the FDP.

It is reason enough for the establishment to start thinking, especially the SPD, which lost many of its voters to the environmentalists. The environmentalists are far from being entirely new. They were labelled by the SPD head office after last year's election.

October they were unable to make full use of their voter potential in the polarisation between Schmidt and Brandt. In any event, it is the local and regional sectors where the new strength lies.

This does not mean that the established parties will not have to reckon with the environmentalists at the forthcoming state legislative elections and the general election.

Environmentalists are more than a passing political phenomenon. They show that a change in the sense of the emergency signifies that the belief in progress is no longer

shared; something felt more keenly by the young than by the older generation. They are also more than just a plaything for young people who have been bored with affluence. Many young people are firmly convinced the established parties can no longer politically represent the interests and expectations of the people.

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HOME AFFAIRS

Voters swing towards the conservatives

In Berlin, the Young Socialists demonstrated against US Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

And in mid-October SPD executive committee member Erhard Eppler was to use a mass peace demonstration in Bonn to voice his criticism of Chancellor Schmidt's policy.

Meanwhile, SPD chairman Willy Brandt is more concerned with differentiating between party and government than with identifying with government policies.

Thus it takes little imagination to see the deep rift that plagues the Social Democrats. And, as the Lower Saxony elections show, reactions differ.

Those who favour Eppler's line seek an alternative among the environmentalists and similar groupings because they no longer believe their ideas will prevail in view of the Chancellor's stance.

Those who sympathise with the Chancellor, on the other hand, still put their faith in him — but not in his party. This, incidentally, is a phenomenon that, to everybody's surprise, clearly transpired in the national elections last year.

The Social Democrats are faced with a virtually impossible task. If the party opens up to the counter-movement it

has no choice but to turn its back on Helmut Schmidt.

Yet, the way things stand, the coalition and hence the SPD as a governing party hinges on Helmut Schmidt personally.

If the party tries to do both, hold on to Schmidt and at the same time open up, it can only do it half-heartedly and without conviction.

So far as the last Bundestag election was concerned, this tension was only resolved temporarily because Franz-Josef Strauss stood for Chancellor.

But there will be no repeat unless the conservatives lose their senses. This, however, is unlikely. In fact, they seem to be headed for a long overdue change.

Willy Brandt's saying that Schmidt will remain Chancellor as long as he wants to begs the question. On what terms will Schmidt be prepared and able to stay at the head of the government?

Not a case of 'writing on the SPD wall'

The Lower Saxony elections must not be interpreted as the writing on the wall for the SPD nationally.

But if the mood it demonstrates does not change by the time of the 1982 state legislative elections, and if the SPD loses the state of Hesse to the CDU, Schmidt would be faced with more than just a personal alarm signal.

The coalition would then become unable to govern due to the Oppositions majority in the Bundesrat.

Hans Schmitz

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 29 September 1981)

Environmental movement keeps gaining

The political system has ensured unprecedented stability. Since the fourth Bundestag there have been only three parties in a parliament where CDU and SPD represent 90 per cent of the voters.

Up to now, the emergence of new parties, all of which stumbled over the five-per-cent hurdle, has been interpreted at most as a warning.

But for some time now the more far-sighted politicians have been asking whether the electorate is really as satisfied with the major parties as elections results seem to indicate. Stability can lead to petrification.

The five-per-cent hurdle that has prevented political fragmentation and protects the big parties from irksome competition has made them smug and stripped them of initiative.

In addition they want to present as streamlined an image as possible to the voter. Dissenters stand no chance.

This is one of the main reasons why the Bonn Bundestag has acquired a reputation for bureaucratic domination and mediocrity.

The parties have monopolised the shaping of the nation's political will rather than reflecting it and have lost contact with the people in the process.

This has created a vacuum in values and aims which is now being filled by the environmentalists.

It is therefore not surprising that the major parties are unable to handle the new movement. They have formed what can best be described as a solidarity cartel of helplessness.

But in the long run they will have to

Land election 'reflects national mood'

Though municipal, state and national elections can be lumped together to a limited extent only, local elections are nevertheless affected by major politics. The Lower Saxony municipal and district elections are a case in point.

The positive trend for the Opposition in Bonn and the negative one for the Social-Liberal coalition parties were clearly evidenced in Lower Saxony where the CDU gained massively and the SPD lost heavily, while the FDP had a hard time retaining its low level of popularity. Bonn wrangling over the budget and the disputes over defence policy within the SPD prompted many voters to cast their ballot with the intention of teaching the SPD a lesson.

The outcome of Lower Saxony's local elections must be seen partly as an indicator of the nation's mood where Bonn is concerned.

The indicator shows a negative trend for the two coalition partners and a positive one for the conservatives. The CDU was the undisputed winner in Lower Saxony.

It profited from the SPD's losses as did the environmentalists, who managed to get into many a local council where they are bound to add a bit of colour to municipal politics and where they will be tipping the scales in many a town when it comes to electing a mayor.

Another noteworthy point is the gains of the Communist Party, which did rather well in some places, as for instance in the university city of Oldenburg.

The success of the environmentalists and Communists in Lower Saxony shows that the three-ballot voting system favours the small parties and fringe groups.

Due to the heavy influence of national politics on Lower Saxony's local elections, the results cast a heavy shadow on the state elections in 1982 and, of course, the viability of the Social-Liberal coalition in Bonn.

Next year will see state legislative elections in Hamburg, Lower Saxony, Bavaria and Hesse. And if the present

Nordwest-Zeitung

negative trend for the SPD continues, Walther Leisler Kiep (CDU) will stand a pretty good chance of taking the helm in Hamburg, while Lower Saxony's Ernst Albrecht is likely to corner the absolute majority in his state.

The Free Democrats in Hesse, who pin their hopes on a coalition with the SPD, will be faced with stiff competition from the environmentalists. Will the SPD-FDP coalition retain a majority?

All this is anything but conducive to the atmosphere in the Bonn coalition, especially as the SPD was made to realise by the Lower Saxony elections that the Chancellor bonus loses its worth when voters realise that Helmut Schmidt and his party don't see eye to eye when it comes to such matters as foreign, security, economic and energy policy.

The elections in Lower Saxony were only local. But these first elections after the budget cutbacks in Bonn show there is a stiff breeze blowing straight into the SPD's face.

Bodo Schulte

(Nordwest-Zeitung, 28 September 1981)

New value for money

Continued from page 1

restore peace and quiet on money markets.

Their most important consequences are that French and Italian goods and services are less expensive abroad, whereas Dutch and German goods and services are more expensive in the world market.

This could well upset German exports, currently the mainstay of the eco-

nomy, but exports have proved so resilient in the past that they will probably cope with this new handicap too.

Imports, conversely, are cheaper — a welcome development at a time when inflation has increased to 6.6 per cent.

The Bundesbank will not be able to relax the credit squeeze until the current account is back in balance and inflation has been contained. Norbert Welter

(Wendendeutsche Allgemeine, 8 October 1981)

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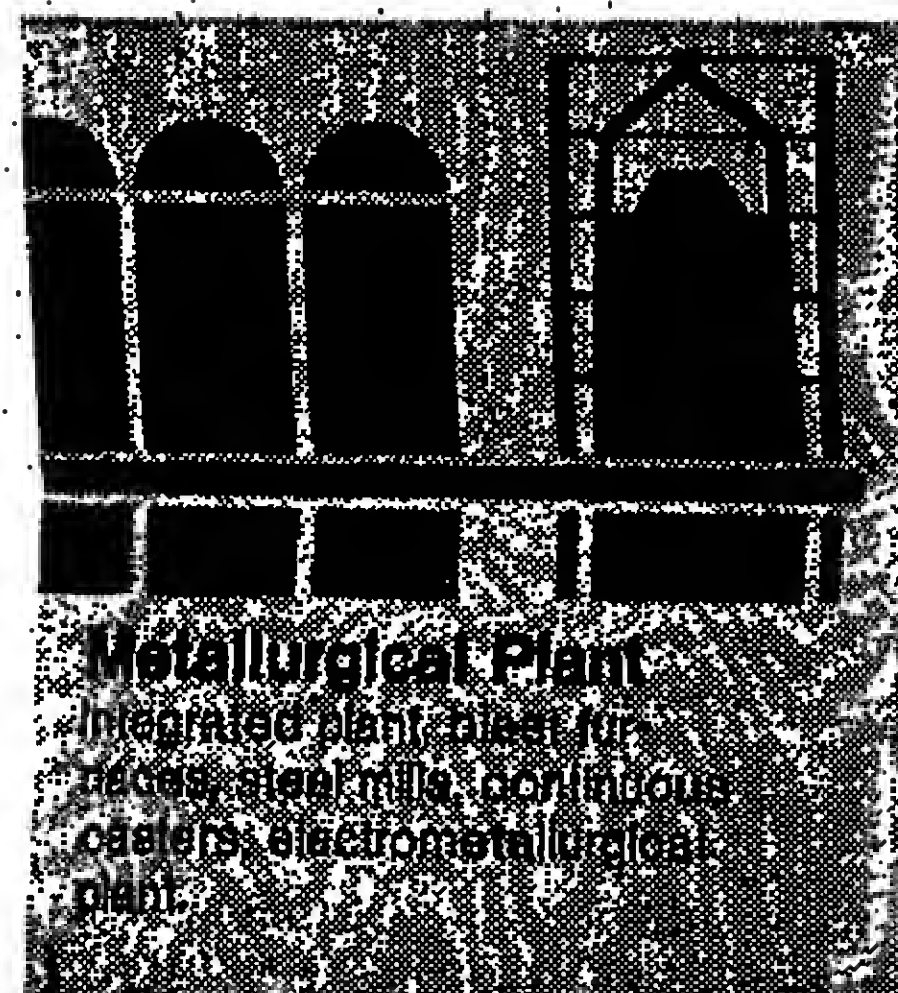
In correspondence please quote your name and address. The number which appears on the masthead indicates your reference.

What matters is to take, on this
without reservations, just as general
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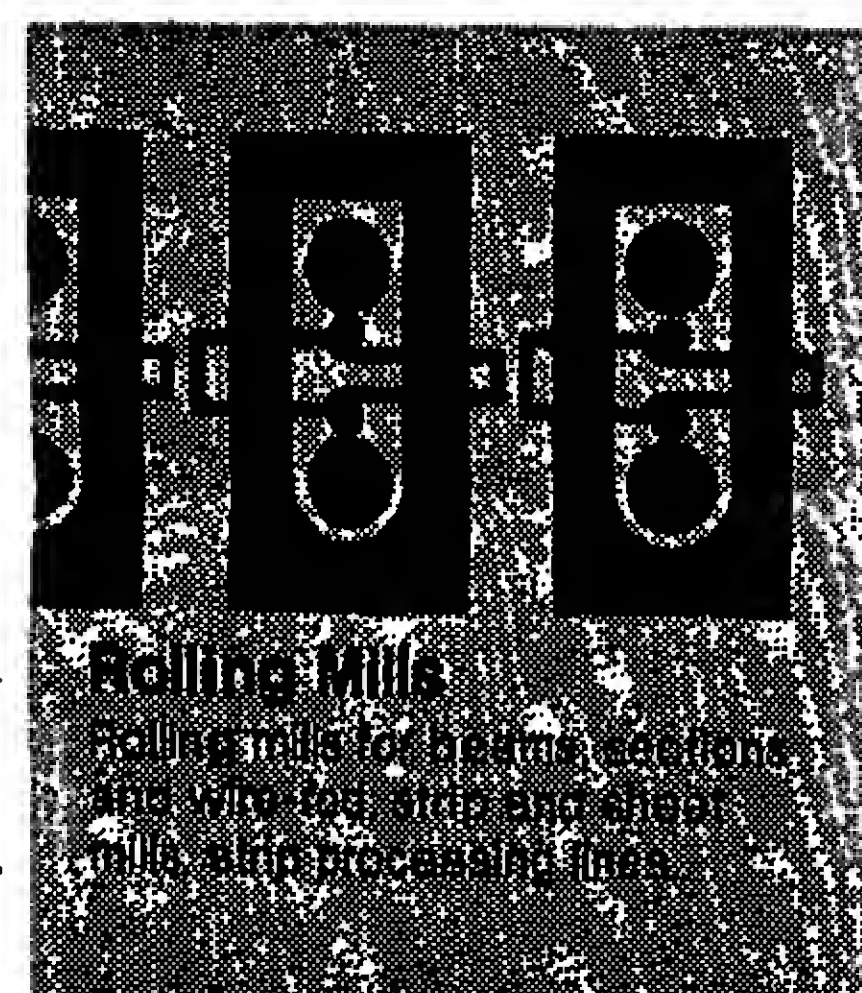
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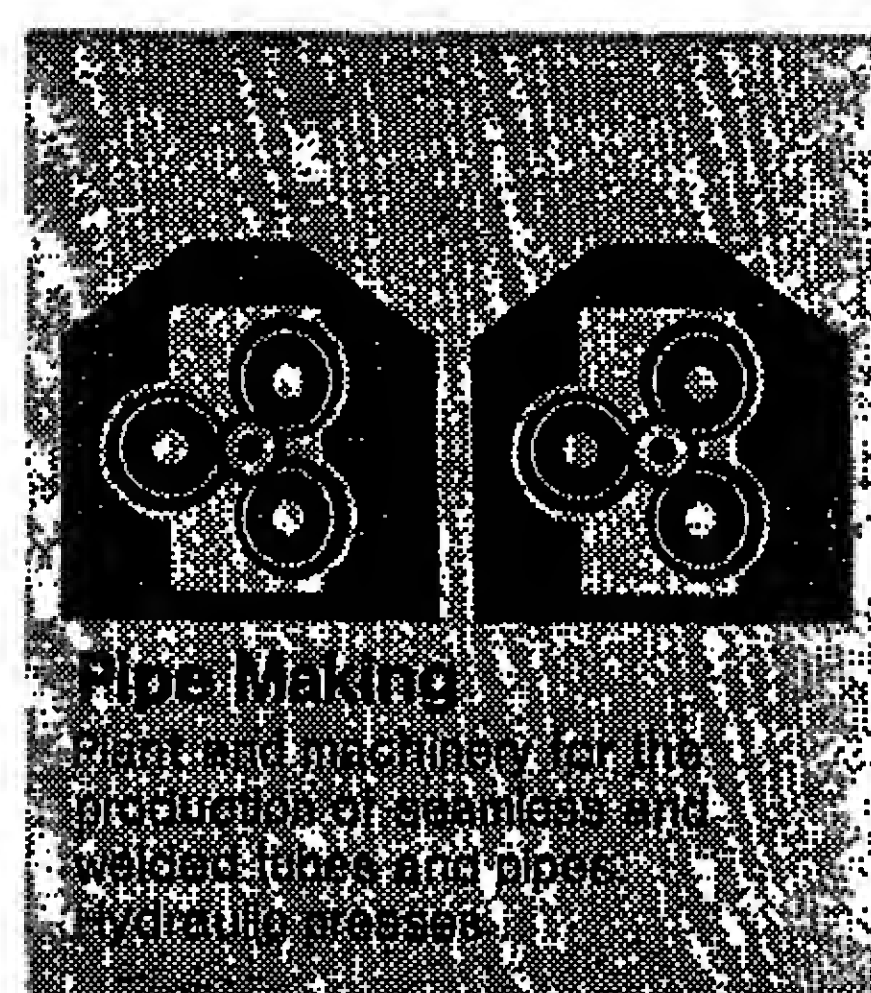
Machinery, Plants and Systems



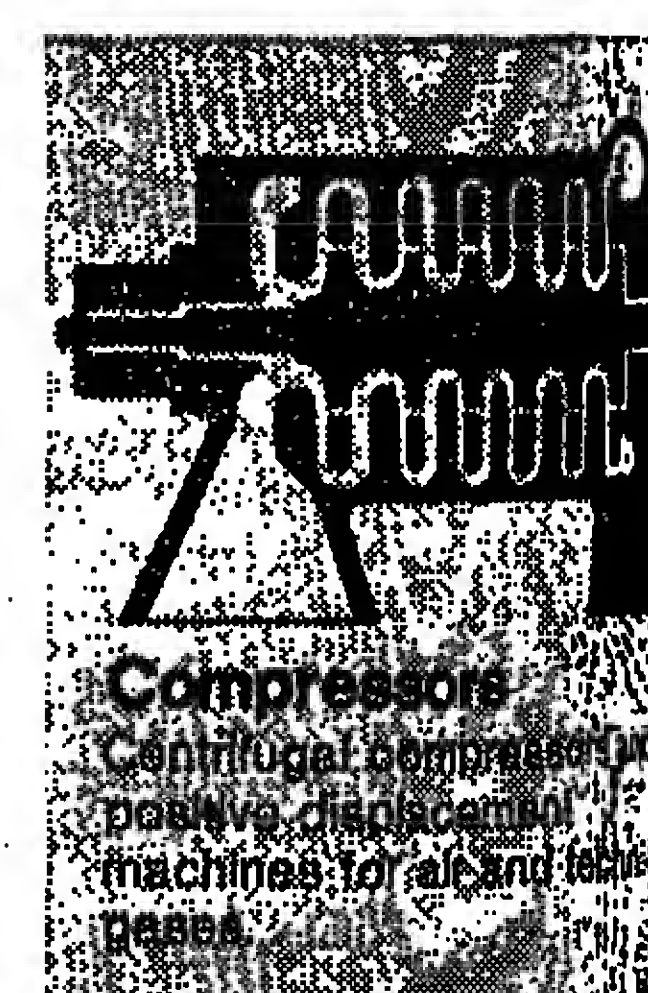
Metallurgical Plant
Integrated plant blast furnaces, converters, continuous casters, electroslag remelting plant.



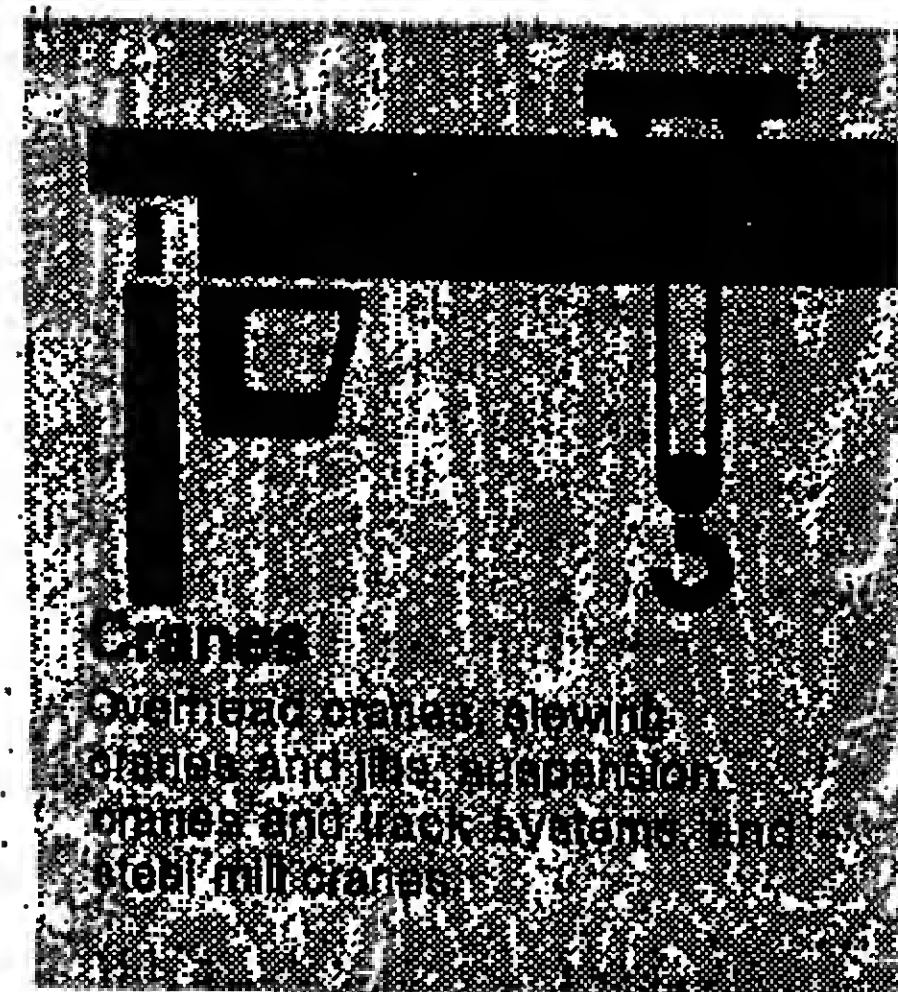
Rolling Mills
Rolling mills for various sections and profiles, strip and sheet, hot and cold, heavy and light.



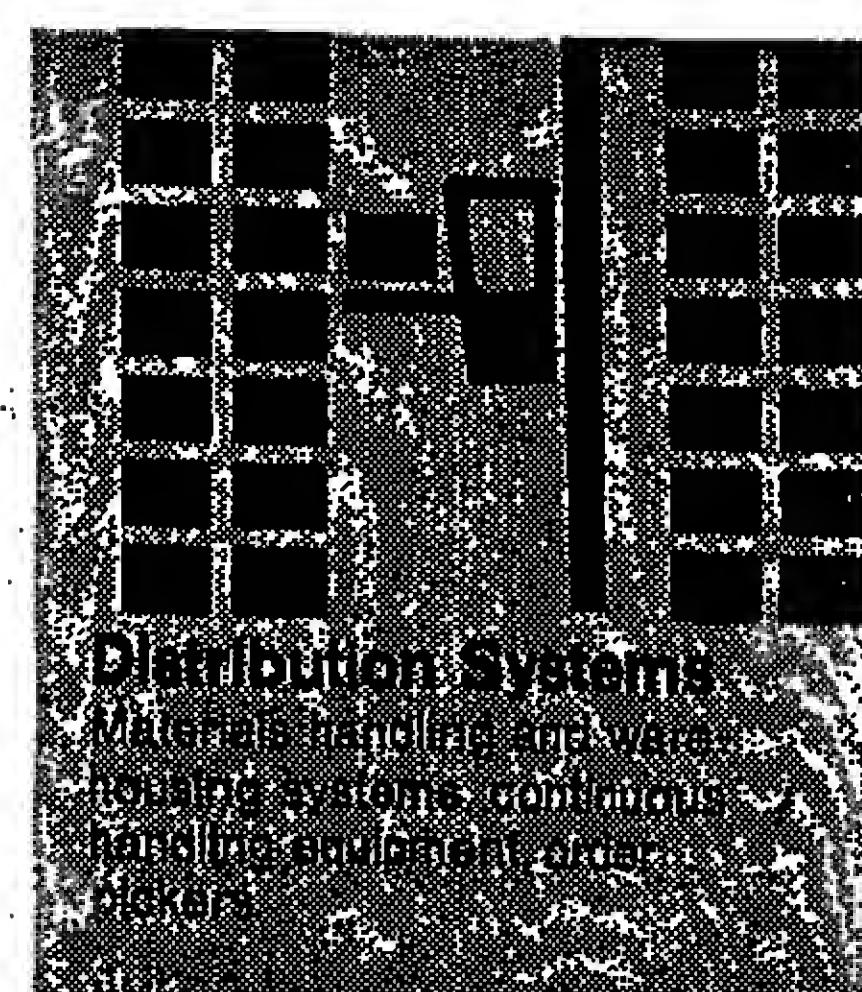
Pipe Making
Plant and machine for the production of seamless and welded pipes and pipe fittings.



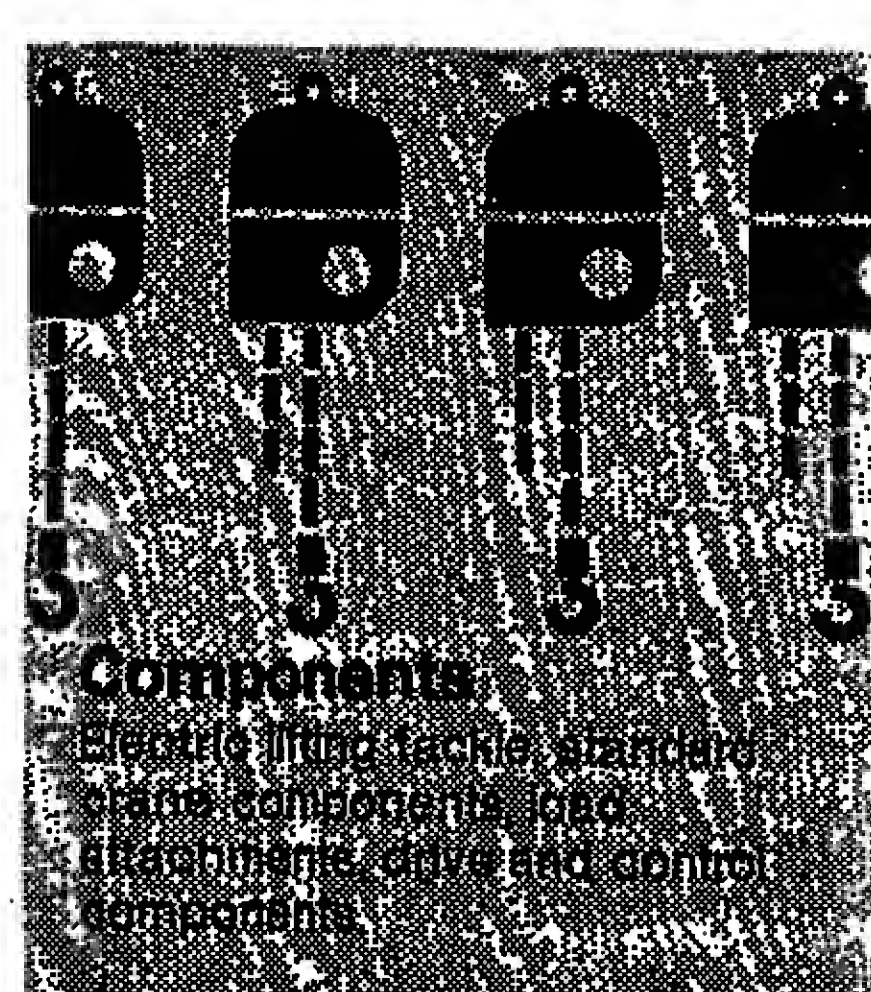
Compressors
Centrifugal compressors for positive displacement machines for air and other gases.



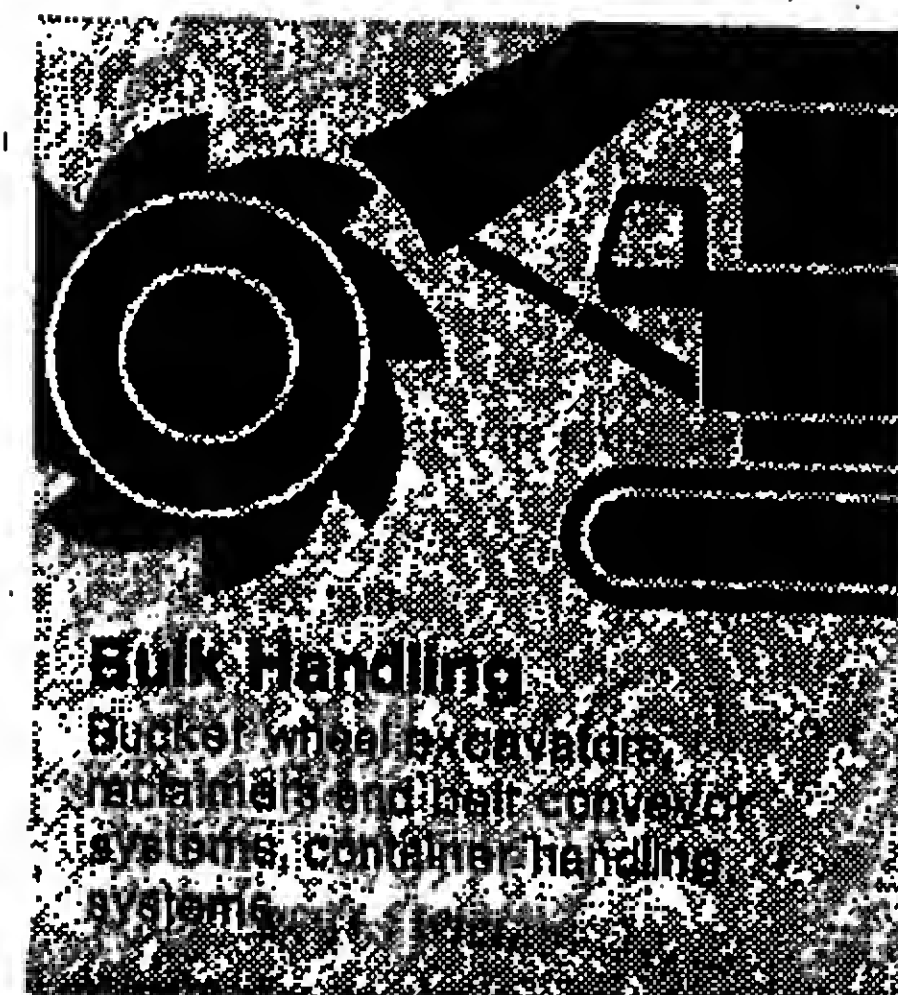
Cranes
Overhead cranes, trolley cranes, and other types, for various capacities and spans.



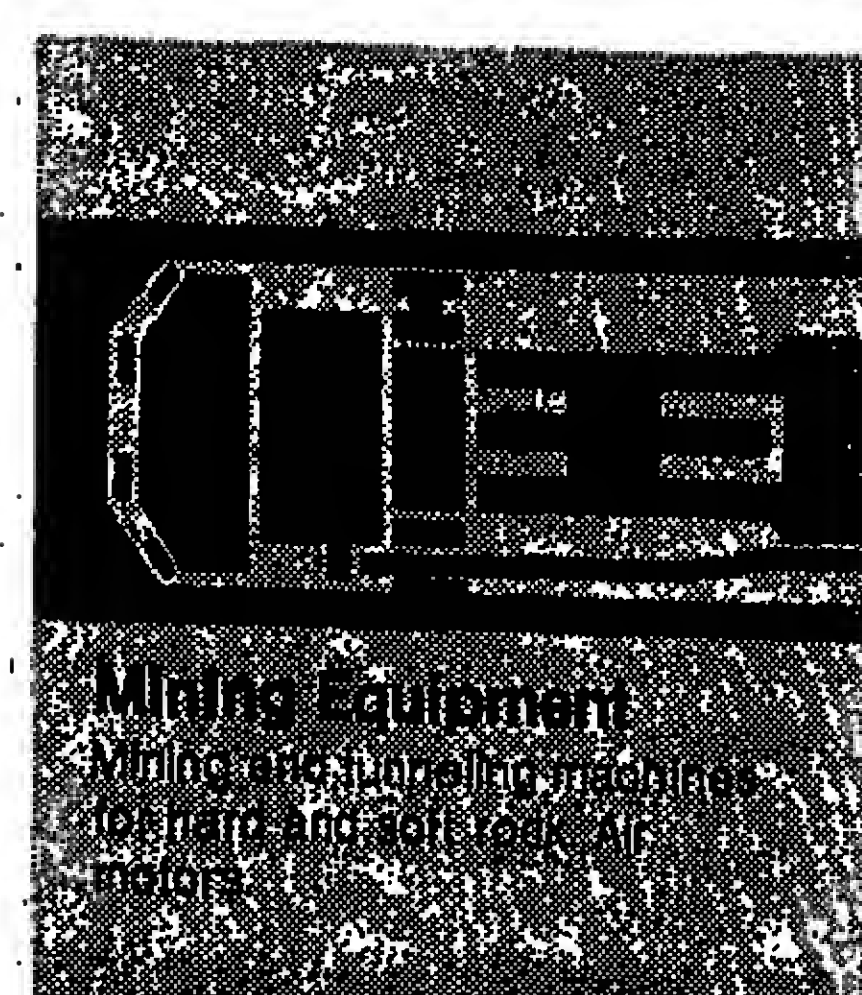
Distribution Systems
Material handling systems, conveyor systems, continuous handling systems, etc.



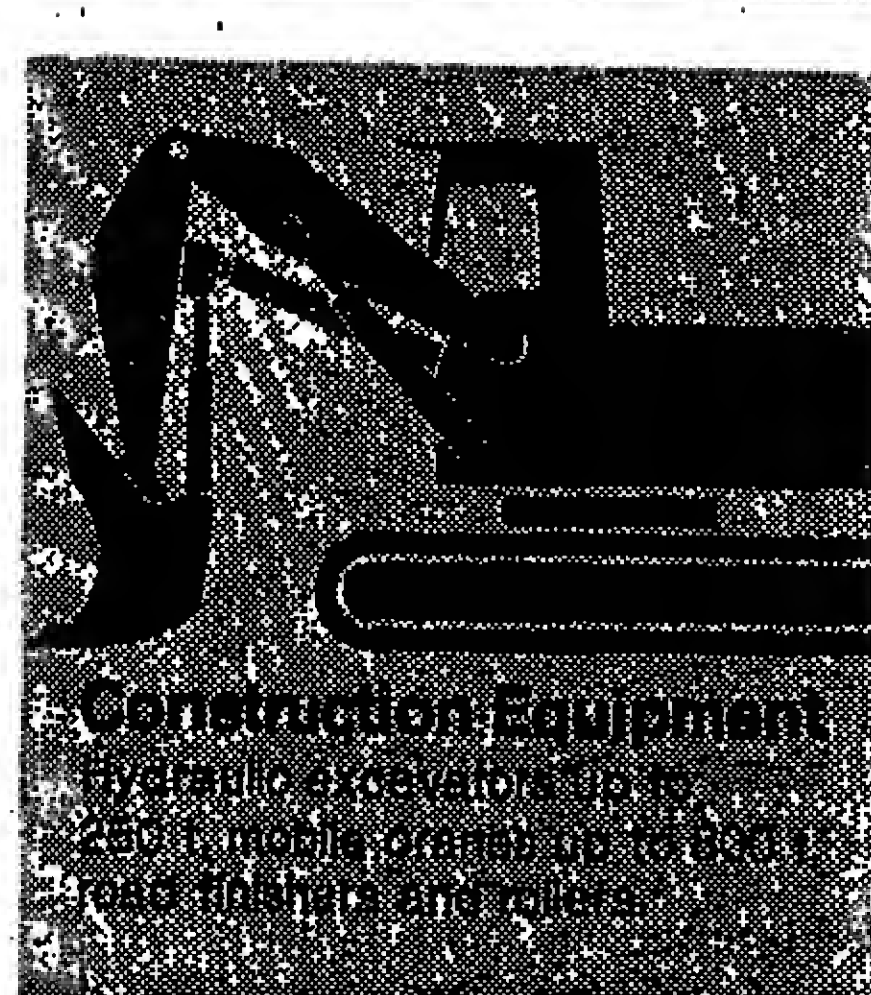
Components
Electric lifting devices, hoists, cranes, etc., for various capacities and spans.



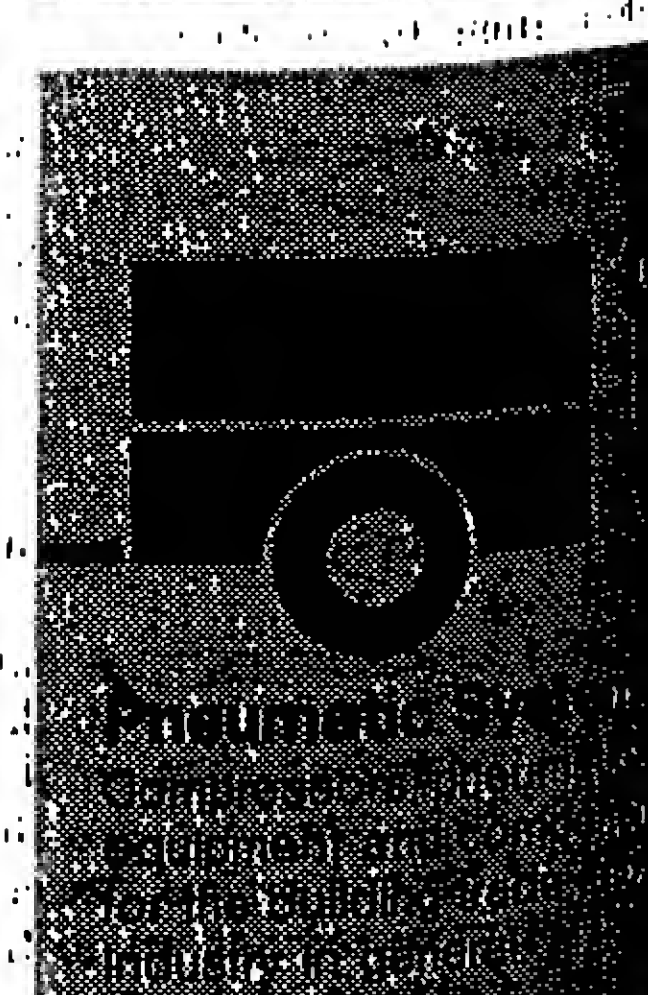
Bulk Handling
Buckets, wheelbarrows, conveyors, etc., for various capacities and spans.



Mining Equipment
Mining machines, etc., for various capacities and spans.



Construction Equipment
Hydraulic excavators, etc., for various capacities and spans.



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RESEARCH

Commercial promise of desalination ship

German shipbuilders, long berated for lack of imagination, have hit on a new idea, says Helmut Wilckens, Thyssen-Nordseewerke, Emden.

The yard has designed and built the first German factory ship. This idea, he says, shows that German yards are not as sure to miss opportunities as the critics would have it.

The first German factory ship is also a sign of light in an age of gloom and despondency in shipbuilding over most of the world.

German yards would certainly long ago have gone bankrupt had not Bonn kept them out time and again in a shift manner bridging gaps due to lack of money.

Orders are few and far between. Yards in many countries vie with each other for work; they are able to do so because government subsidies keep them afloat.

This runs counter to market principles, especially with a worldwide surplus in shipbuilding capacity. German yards are certainly uneconomic.

To make matters worse, German shipbuilders for years have missed opportunities. New ideas have simply not occurred to them.

While the Japanese have knocked out hulls and sold them as floating factories, rationalising their shipyards as they do so, German shipbuilders have been busy with walling and gnashing of teeth.

But those days are over now the *Meda* is at her berth at the Thyssen-Nordseewerke yard in Emden and due to sail soon.

It is a floating desalination plant built with financial backing from the Bonn Research Ministry and know-how supplied by Incon GmbH of Homburg in the Saar.

Converting sea water into fresh water is fairly simple in principle, but on an industrial scale there are many technical problems to overcome before the evaporation process is sufficiently economic to be worthwhile.

Energy is the main cost factor. Thyssen and Incon have combined several processes with a new technique. The result is a desalination plant that performs all known competition.

Conventional units need 10 kilograms of steam to produce 32 kilograms of fresh water. The *Meda* needs only one kilogram of steam to do so.

What is more, the new factory ship uses only a third of the energy required by conventional installations, and energy is an important consideration in Europe, where it is expensive.

Even the Thyssen-Incon process involves oil at current prices as 20 per cent of the overall costs. Yet the unit cost of desalinated water is far from out of the question even in Germany.

A cubic metre of fresh water desalinated on board the *Meda* in Emden costs DM6 to produce, which works out at 0.15 pfennig per litre.

Water boards in Germany sell well or treated water at DM1.50 per cubic metre, 0.15 pfennig per litre. This is the price of water supplied in Bonn, and it is highly representative of the country as a whole.

It includes the cost of piping the water to consumers and the cost of administration, which the DM6 in Emden does not.

In areas where oil prices are lower, such as Opec coastal regions, the cost per cubic metre of *Meda* water could be cut to DM5 or even DM3.

This is roughly half the cost of water conventionally desalinated, and the ship can produce 5,000 cubic metres a day, with seven men working a four-shift day round the clock.

This output can be maintained for between 320 and 330 days a year. In terms of Central European water consumption it is enough to supply domestic and industrial consumers in a small town of 25,000 people or so.

But with average consumption in Germany at 200 litres per person per day, *Meda* water would be expensive: DM36 a month per head.

What is more, this DM36 would include neither a profit margin nor the cost of piping water to the consumer. This amount of water currently costs German consumers about DM9 per month.

But the shortage of water is much more important than cost considerations where the *Meda* will shortly be heading. She is bound for the oil-rich shores of the Arab Gulf, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean.

There she will demonstrate what she can do, and Thyssen-Incon are confident orders will be placed there and then. There has certainly been no shortage of enquiries in Emden.

Desalination factory ships could also be well worthwhile despite the relatively high water price in poorer parts of the Mediterranean too, of course, such as the Greek or Spanish islands.

Ground water is scarce on a number of Greek and Spanish islands that rely heavily on holidaymakers for their living.

Underground tanks are filled during the winter rains but soon run dry in summer when tourists take showers for hours on end; they were not designed for consumption of this kind.

So in many localities no more tourists can be catered for because of the water shortage. But a factory ship could be towed from place to place to top up tanks that were running dangerously low.

So the *Meda* seems sure to be a money-spinner, which should please Bonn Finance Minister Hans Matthöfer.

If the project proves profitable, Bonn will be repaid part of the DM22m the Research Ministry has invested in it.

Wolfgang Hoffmann
(Die Zeit, 2 October 1981)

Siberian gas deal

Continued from page 7.

Germany with its natural gas. If the gas deal were already in operation, this figure would stand at 80 per cent.

Now, unlike in past years, Bonn makes no bones about the fact that it expects the Soviet Union to buy from German companies if Germany imports its raw materials from there.

Most of this economic cooperation takes place within the framework of long-term contracts or projects. And, unlike in past years, most of these projects are energy-related.

The orders that come in other sectors are usually follow-up orders as in the case of the Kurak steel mill.

Even these replacement and maintenance investments are profitable though the real money lies in the energy sector.

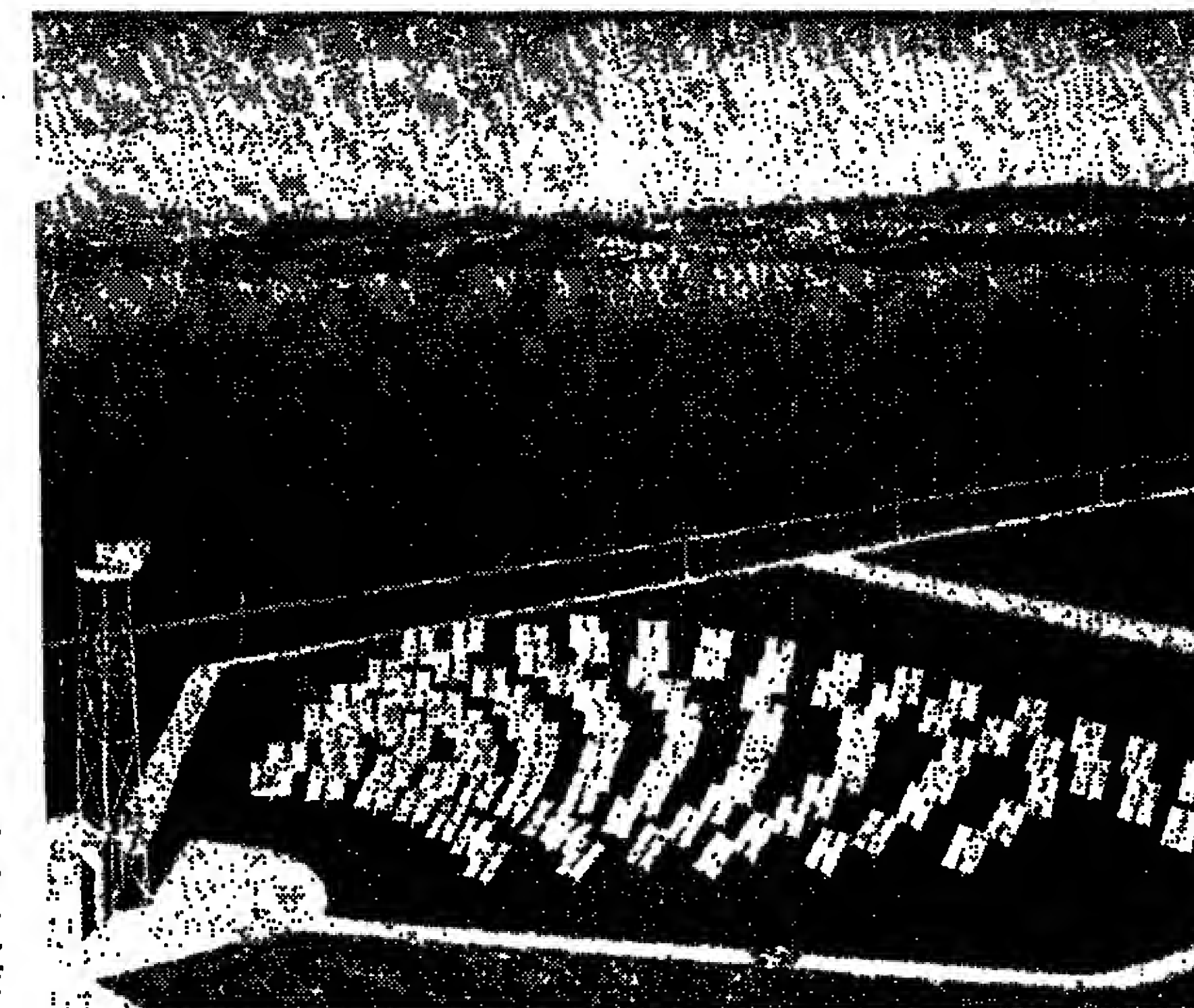
In any event, the future of any of these deals will depend on the political climate.

Hans-J. Mahnke
(Die Welt, 23 September 1981)

The twin solar power stations have cost DM80m in all, including infrastructure in a remote region, towards which Bonn has contributed DM30m.

In addition to Germany and Spain, the countries associated with the project are the United States, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Sweden and Greece.

August Meyer
(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 25 September 1981)



Shining example: mirrors catch the sun in the Almeria solar power project.

(Photo: DFVLR)

Solar power experiment shines through setback

Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger

Experimental solar power stations with a combined capacity of 1,000 kilowatts have been built side by side in a remote but sunsplashed area of southern Spain by two German companies.

Germany, Spain, half a dozen European countries and the United States are associated with the project, which it is hoped will mark the dawn of a new era in power generation.

After a disastrous dress rehearsal, as all actors know, you need no longer worry about the first night. And vice-versa.

The dress rehearsal of the two solar power stations near Almeria went off without a hitch. At the opening ceremony the following day a minor hitch faulted the switch-on until the third attempt.

But this was an insignificant mishap in relation to the two years and DM80m it had taken to build the most up-to-date solar power stations in the world.

It did not upset the German Aerospace Research Institute (DFVLR) team in charge of the project.

The site is a stony plateau near Tabernas, about 30km from Almeria on the Spanish coast. It houses two solar stations based on different principles and built by different German companies.

Between them the two experimental installations generate a megawatt of power that is fed to the local grid, and this output is expected to be maintained throughout the 3,000 hours of sunlight a year.

But for the scientists, technicians and companies concerned the two years of experiments that have now begun are more important.

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August Meyer
(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 25 September 1981)

The MAN installation is based on the solar farm principle. The unit designed and built by Interatom of Bergisch Gladbach, near Cologne, is based on the solar tower principle. Each generates 500 kilowatts.

The solar tower consists of 93 mirrors with a combined surface area of 3,700 square metres that reflect sunlight to the top of a tower 45 metres tall.

The sunlight is magnified to 450 times its strength and heats liquid sodium in a tower-top receiver to more than 500 degrees centigrade.

The hot sodium is channelled to the foot of the tower where it evaporates water to drive a steam generator.

The solar farm consists of 86 semi-circular mirrors that beam the sunlight at a focal line along which a special oil circulates.

All done through a heat exchanger

The oil is heated, passes its heat via a heat exchanger to water that is converted into steam to power a turbine and generate power.

One set of mirrors follows the course of the sun vertically. Another follows it both vertically and horizontally, using heliostats.

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August Meyer
(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 25 September 1981)

SCIENCE

Humboldt awards symbolise special German-American relationship

At the moment we are out of sympathy," said an American woman specialist somewhat grimly at a gathering of German and American scientists in Princeton.

It is unfashionable at present to talk in terms of strokes of good luck in ties between Germans and Americans. Dissatisfaction disturbs the picture, misunderstandings distort it.

Maybe the speaker, a former assistant to Walter Lippmann and now head of the American Council on Germany, had forgotten in the maelstrom of political life that there is more to German-American ties than current events.

The gathering of scientists at which she reached this sad conclusion would certainly have felt the very opposite to be the case.

It was held jointly by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study.

The US scientists invited were Humboldt prizewinners who over the past eight years have come to be familiar with German research departments from within, working in them, many for the first time.

On meeting again in the famed academic atmosphere of Princeton the scientific inspiration between the nations, as mathematician Freeman Dyson put it, was apparent in a way that went well beyond mere demonstrations of sympathy.

Accustomed though they are to dealing with each other in a free and easy manner, both German and American scientists felt their stay in Princeton was a special stroke of good luck.

Good luck, but not

Just coincidence

It did not come about by sheer coincidence. It originated in an idea more intelligent and testifying to greater sensitivity than is generally attributed to Germans in international affairs.

The story of the Humboldt award scheme began with a gesture of gratitude. It was made by Willy Brandt at a ceremony in Harvard to mark the 25th anniversary of the announcement in 1947 by US Secretary of State George C. Marshall that he planned to set up the European Recovery Programme.

"As an expression of our special gratitude for the decision not to rule us out 25 years ago," Chancellor Brandt said, he had brought America a number of gifts.

The most expensive of these gifts was a fund endowed with DM150m to set up a kind of Marshall aid in reverse in the United States. Its activities are entirely American-run.

He brought DM3m for the Institute of West European Studies in Harvard and also boosted the funds of the Fulbright programme, to which many young German scholarship-holders owed their first post-war experience of the United States.

The Fulbright scholarship scheme is now 80-per-cent financed by Germany.

Herr Brandt's final undertaking was a DM5m annual grant by Bonn towards an exchange programme for senior US scientists. This parting gift was arranged just before he left for America.



It was the work of Bonn Research Minister Hans Leussink, aided and abetted by Finance Minister Alex Möller.

"In Alex Möller, a self-made man," says Professor Leussink now as a governor of the Humboldt Foundation, "the academic community had found someone who, without himself having been to university, felt scientific exchange was not a luxury and not only promised to provide the millions needed for the scheme but also included them in the budget estimates."

Herr Möller also agreed to the scholarships being termed awards, which made them tax-free.

That was what made them attractive for internationally acclaimed specialists of the kind the Germans had in mind as prizewinners and hoped to persuade to spend a year's research in Germany.

A Humboldt award is currently worth about DM100,000 a year. To date 751 awards have been made to American scientists and the American inland revenue service has been persuaded to exempt them from tax too.

The Humboldt Foundation awards opened up the return half of a two-way traffic between the United States and Germany and were a special token of gratitude by the German scientific community.

Many German scientists were enabled by generous US scholarships to spend key initial periods of post-war research in America.

In the biodata of leading German scientists who were members of the German delegation at Princeton, American research institutes, laboratories and observatories play the part of foster-parents that are invariably their first port of call in the United States.

They included Reimar Lüst, head of the Max Planck Society, Eugen Seybold, head of the Scientific Research Association, Manfred Eigen, head of the Max Planck Institute of Biophysical Chemistry, and Nobel laureate Hans Joachim Queisser, head of the Max Planck Institute of Solid-State Physics.

They all feel scientifically at home in the United States. They share with their American colleagues common interests, a common language, English, and also deal with each other in an unpretentious, free and easy manner that is pretty well unheard-of in German academic life.

Their common creed includes a claim to quality so absolute as to allow few compromises, but otherwise they go about their business in keeping with Einstein's dictum: "Make everything as simple as possible, but not more so."

There were three guarantees of the fruitful development of the award scheme: the funds endowed, the foundation spirit and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, which took over its administration.

"Alexander von Humboldt," says Heinrich Pflüger, the Foundation's founding father, in a memorable potted version of history, "would never have been a Humboldt prizewinner.

"He was much too poor a student, but

luckily for him he had a rich mother. With private instruction he managed to qualify for university entrance.

"He paid for his scientific travel out of his own pocket and when he died he was virtually penniless.

"But German industrialists, the Scientific Academy of St Petersburg and the Royal Society in London decided to endow in his name a foundation that was to finance scientific travel abroad by Germans.

"That was how, in 1860, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation for Natural Research and Travel came into being."

It went to the wall in 1923 during the German hyperinflation, but a few years later it was relaunched on a fresh basis by Adolf von Harnack, the first head of the Kaiser Wilhelm Society (predecessor of the Max Planck Society), and Albert Einstein.

They were encouraged to re-establish it by Carl Heinrich Becker, the Prussian Education Minister. Its new brief was to award grants to enable foreign research scientists to visit Germany.

German science was at its height. The Foundation's statutes expressly ruled out any idea of quotas for various scientific disciplines. Quality alone was to count. This still is the case.

As a rule 500 grants a year can be made, but if only 420 prospective prizewinners qualify, no attempts are undertaken to make up the numbers.

The number of scientists who apply is much higher than that of specialists in the arts. Since 1953 scholarship-holders, from 64 countries, have numbered 8,000.

The running costs, about DM40m a year, are met largely from the Bonn Foreign Office's cultural affairs budget.

The Humboldt Foundation no longer needs to prove that the knowledge it backs not only serves research but is also capable of active assistance and international understanding.

It proved its own point, having been re-established in 1953 on the initiative of former Humboldt Foundation scholars abroad.

In 1946 a former British Humboldt scholar had ensured that the Allies did not wind up the Kaiser Wilhelm Society and made provision for its survival as the Max Planck Society.

This man happened, by a stroke of good luck, to be scientific adviser to the British military government.

Another Humboldt tale is the story of the university vice-chancellor in Shanghai who was a professor in Darmstadt until 1946 and a former Humboldt scholar.

He too lent invaluable assistance, this time in re forging economic links between Germany and China at the end of the 70s.

Success stories such as these come as no coincidence. The Humboldt Foundation does more than look after its award-winners academically; it also pays them individual, personal attention.

No Humboldt scholar is ever lost sight of; wherever possible he is invited back to Germany a few years later. In individual countries Humboldt clubs have been set up and are regularly toured by Heinrich Pflüger and the Foundation's presidents.

Nothing is too much for Pflüger, who

counts many Humboldt scholars as personal friends, while the Foundation presidents have always lent it the kind of their personal reputations.

The first two presidents were Nobel laureates Werner Heisenberg and Friedrich L. The present incumbent is physicist Wolfgang Paul.

The Princeton venue was a special colcade for the gathering of Humboldt scholars. The Institute for Advanced Study does not open its doors to anyone who picks and chooses its guests.

During the academic year it hosts 170 research fellows from all over the world. They live on campus in unassuming bungalows and apartments.

Far away from the madding crowd, unspoiled nature (but with footpaths now so that Europeans can go for walks), they go about their scientific work undisturbed.

The only obligation a fellow has is to take tea in the institute every afternoon. "For me," a former German fellow says, "Princeton has the ideal academic atmosphere."

Invitations are initiated and inspired by the four schools of the institute, the schools of mathematics, natural sciences, history and economics, and by the permanent fellows.

Permanent fellows are usually top rank international scientists. The list includes Freeman Dyson, an Englishman, is another.

Ex-flyer's new idea on

the quantum theory

Dyson was with the RAF's bomber command during World War II. He started studying in America in 1947, was invited to do research at Princeton in 1953.

He had come up with a new idea of quantum theory that intrigued J. Robert Oppenheimer, who was then head of the institute.

Dyson later grew interested in research and spent a year at the Max Planck Physics Institute in Munich.

He numbers among the international top rank of scientists. In his own discipline he has always had a nose for promising developments.

Yet during the Princeton gathering he made a brilliant plea for unfashionable ideas and against followers of the seasonal fashion who are always to be found where the action is.

In the instances he listed of discoveries that in their day were of "wonderful social irrelevance" and took 50 to 100 years to be appreciated by fellow-scientists he bore witness to a remarkable knowledge of outsiders in the history of German mathematics.

This was followed by a lively debate between Americans and Germans on how to rescue the mad scientists of the world. How were they to be kept out of a niche in the scientific establishment?

What chances do outsiders still have? People with original ideas, Dyson is usually bad at explaining them. They depend on the less original people who understand them and pave the way for them like John the Baptist.

The Institute for Advanced Study set up in 1930 and soon became a beacon of Academe. This was due partly to the many German scientists who followed Einstein into emigration.

In so doing they transferred the centre of scientific progress from Old World to the New.

At Princeton this time round some

Continued on page 11

THE ARTS

Row over DM25m U-boat film

(The Boat), based on the book by Lothar-Günter Buchheim, cost DM25m to produce. That is the most expensive film ever made in Germany.

The story is based on Buchheim's experiences as a war correspondent. He also wrote the first version of the screenplay.

Director Wolfgang Petersen, a war hero who was born in 1941, felt this action could not be filmed and wrote a completely new screenplay.

The film has since been strongly criticised for its resulting film.

It tells the tale of a 1941 mission to sink a VII C class German U-boat. The character is a young lieutenant played by Herbert Grönemeyer.

In a final party, somewhat despairing, the note of enjoyment it sounds, Werner joins the crew as a permanent fellow.

Permanent fellows are usually top rank international scientists. The list includes Freeman Dyson, an Englishman, is another.

That successful raids on enemy ships sound a somewhat macabre note. The crew time in to the creak and gurgle of the ship they have taken. They feel like a living machine.

Director Petersen deliberately withheld the information that the order not

When the boat itself shakes as bombs explode all round it and fails in a bid to break through the heavily guarded Straits of Gibraltar, initial heroism is brought down to size. The U-boat lies helpless 260 metres under water and could be crushed at any moment by the pressure of the water around it. The crew want no more than just to stay alive.

They are no more than boys. On average, officers apart, U-boat crews were aged 17 to 23. And on their baby faces we suddenly see the beginnings of a realisation that what they are doing is utterly pointless.

It was too, inasmuch as more than three out of four U-boats failed to return to their home ports.

One of the ghastliest scenes is when a British tanker is sunk, its crew jumping in flames into the water. They cry for help as they swim towards the U-boat's turret. The boat's commanding officer, played by Jürgen Prochnow, orders: "Half Speed Astern."

Director Petersen deliberately withheld the information that the order not



Erwin Leder in a scene from the war film *Das Boot*

(Photo: Neus Constantin)

to pick up shipwrecked enemy crew was given by Grand-Admiral Dönitz himself. During a sudden night air raid in the Straits of Gibraltar we are not told that the British by this time had radar either.

Petersen banks on the images seen and on the emotions they trigger. Yet he dispenses with undue combat action just as he forgoes deeper psychological insights into his main characters.

This makes them at times seem a little colourless, and this is certainly true of the somewhat oversimplified commanding officer.

Das Boot is not a major Hollywood epic. But the performances by minor characters, especially Otto Sander and Erwin Leder, and the tension it packs make it one of the most remarkable German films for ages. *Berthold Bell*

(Köln Stadt-Anzeiger, 19 September 1981)

Humboldt

Continued from page 10

one told the tale of David Hilbert, the Göttingen mathematician whose role in mathematics has been compared with that of Alexander the Great in history.

One day Hilbert was on his own in his department in Göttingen. Nearly all his students and staff had been of Jewish extraction and had to emigrate.

At a banquet the old man was jovially asked by a Nazi Party member: "How is mathematics faring in Göttingen now it has finally been freed from Jewish influence?"

"Mathematics in Göttingen?" he said. "It no longer exists." His colleagues and students were in Princeton and New York. Their memory is still treasured in America; those who survive form part of the American scientific establishment.

A number of them have revisited Germany as Humboldt scholars. Gerhard Friedlander, for instance, a physical chemist at Brookhaven, one of the foremost particle accelerators in the United States.

"When Feodor Lynen presented me with the award," he recalls with a smile, "he said: 'You weren't expecting ever to get a prize again from me, were you?'"

Both were born in Munich and had lived in the same street as boys, even playing together. They did not meet again until they were old men.

This is what makes the Humboldt award scheme such magic. It was conceived as a token of gratitude for American aid, but maybe tales such as these will make it a blessing in disguise for us Germans.

Nina Grunenberg

(Die Zeit, 25 September 1981)

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HEALTH

Psychologists take closer look at stuttering

The 11th congress on applied psychology in Heidelberg showed once more that although there are dozens of theories on stuttering, nothing is known for sure.

The practical benefits to be derived from theories are usually negligible. And while scientists fight it out among themselves, stutterers have to cope with their handicap as well as they can.

Experts like Saarbrücken psychologist Rainer Krause hold that the mental stress to which stutterers are subjected is worse than total loss of speech.

He is one of the experts who have departed from the traditional view that stuttering is due to physiological causes. His research and therapeutic experience have led him to believe it is attributable to emotional problems.

The stutterer is like the centipede that "begins to stumble over its legs the moment it starts thinking about them."

To escape social discrimination, the stutterer concentrates so much on controlling his speech that he loses the ability to coordinate it, which in turn results in a total speech collapse.

One of the main reasons is that he tries to control his emotions at all costs because he knows from experience that emotions lead to an accumulation of air in his lungs and thus prevent him from speaking properly.

Yet the reactions of a stutterer in times of danger, fright or stress are much the same as those of other people who continue to speak normally.

They, too, occasionally stutter under stress, but the stutterer has been used from childhood to keeping a firm check on his emotions. His parents trained him to be as sparing as possible in displaying any kind of feeling.

Most therapists later support stutterers in this suppression, recommending them to relax, breathe quietly and compose themselves because, as the experts rightly say, relaxed people speak in a more relaxed fashion.

Psychoanalysts say that stutterers are usually timid and, because they fear fear, are prone to stumble over speech obstacles.

They also avoid situations in which they might be called upon to speak fluently. They even try to reduce their body language to an absolute minimum and to avoid looking people in the eye.

All in all, they try to gloss over their handicap, not only because they are ashamed of it but also to prevent the dreaded stutter in the first place by keeping a tight rein on their emotions and thus their speech. Unfortunately, this is inevitably doomed to failure.

Assuming this theory is right, the use of the various types of apparatus employed by therapists the world over is pointless. Such devices are meant to cure symptoms only, without getting at the root of the problem, while the stutterer needs psychological help.

This applies in equal measure to all technologies used to control the disability. It applies to metric speaking therapy in which a metronome sets the pace, forcing the stutterer to speak slower, or faster.

It also applies to the delayed auditory feedback which many therapists praise as the remedy. Here, the stutterer hears

his own speech via earphones with a split-second time lag that can be regulated.

An equally doubtful aid is the auditory masking technique in which a white rumble transmitted through earphones is superimposed on the stutterer's speech to reduce the number of lapses.

Curiously enough, just wearing earphones without any sound being transmitted has the same effect.

All this proves that such techniques have their limits. They all have one thing in common. They replace the painful self-control of the stutterer by outside control.

Whenever they do show a temporary success the results are because techniques either reduce the speed of speech or draw the stutterer's attention to the technical apparatus or a combination of both.

This also applies to electromyographic biofeedback in which visual signals indicate the degree of muscle tension which the stutterer is supposed to reduce because it is this that allegedly causes the stuttering in the first place.

Here, the stutterer must concentrate on something other than his speech. The result is that there are fewer sounds, syllables and words over which he stumbles.

A Marlburg team of researchers headed by Karl Heinz Stäcker has developed yet another device, a phonation feedback apparatus which, via a throat microphone, signals the beginning of a vowel to enable the stutterer to synchronise his speech.

Whatever the practical use of these techniques may be, nobody knows whether they can provide a permanent cure.

No sooner has a stutterer been declared cured by his therapist than he finds himself out in the big, wide world wanting to prove the success of the therapy — and stutters as before.

Chest pain has many causes, worries patients sick

There is almost always a psychosomatic element in chest pains and invariably the patient feels a deep existential fear, a therapy congress in Karlsruhe has been told.

The clinical aspect of this frequent type of pain is many-faceted and has both physiological and psychological elements, Dr Dieter Gross of Frankfurt suggested.

The organs involved can be the heart, the coronary arteries, the peripheral nerves, the sympathetic nerve, the lungs, the spine, the upper digestive tract as well as the neck and shoulder regions.

Pain can either originate directly in these organs or be projected to the chest from a distant region of the body.

Frequently the patient tells the doctor that the pain only comes with movement. The doctor must pay close attention to the type of pain described by the patient.

Radiating or stabbing pain that occurs when breathing or as a result of touching the chest region usually points to pleurisy.

If the chest pain comes in the form

An experimental dialogue with oneself is entirely different from a dialogue with others. As a result, it is impossible to practise speech without a dialogue partner.

Those therapists who go along with the emotion theory also fear that current therapeutic methods can cost the sufferer dearly in psychological terms. In fact, the price for better speech could well be a psychological disorder.

But practitioners have fewer scruples. What they are after is a success to point to. Instead of pondering the thousands of possible causes of stuttering, they tackle the symptoms, i.e. speech.

Success seems to prove them right — as in the case of a therapy called video confrontation.

Here, the stutterer can watch himself while speaking via a video camera that records every movement, including the typical facial expressions, enabling him to monitor himself.

This means that the therapist can point out the mistakes a stutterer makes and the rate of stuttering declines while the word frequency rises from 40 to 100 a minute.

But the method has so far only been successful with juveniles who, in any event, stand a much better chance of overcoming the problem (70 per cent) than do adults.

Later in life, stutterers usually find themselves with several therapies behind them and no cure.

For them, the dispute between practitioners and researchers that dominated the Heidelberg congress is a waste of time.

But is it really? The question the therapists in Heidelberg directed at the researchers was: What, if not to restore fluent speech, should be the aim of a therapy?

The researchers' answer was that the stutterer must learn to stutter fluently. As an American researcher once put it: "Stuttering is what you do when you try not to stutter."

The way it looks, the vicious circle of fear and stuttering will only be broken once the stutterer receives adequate psychological help that will make him more self-assured and enable him to give free rein to his emotions.

Frank Niess
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 24 September 1981)

of a spasm in colder weather, at high altitudes or under emotional stress and if it radiates into the arm and the shoulder (mostly on the left) there is a clear indication of an inadequate blood supply to the heart.

Chest pain is never purely physical. It must be seen as a partly psychological health impairment in which the physical or the psychological aspect may prevail, depending on each individual case.

Neurosis or depression is frequently an accompanying element of chest pain or can complicate the condition.

If the doctor finds that there is nothing organically wrong with the patient, he must pay close attention to the vegetative nervous system.

Sweating, a racing heart, insomnia and unresolved conflicts are certain indications of the patient's need for psychosomatic treatment.

But even with chest pain due to organic disorders, psychological elements such as fear or depression play a major role.

Hans Lesser
(Der Tagespiegel, 24 September 1981)

Adolescent heart risk

Röln Stadt-Anzeiger

Today's adolescents run a greater risk of cardiovascular disorders than the rest of the population, a six-year study involving 6,000 Cologne juveniles has shown.

The provisional conclusions of the study, said to be the first of its kind in Germany, were released during the German congress for paediatric medicine in Düsseldorf, which was attended by about 1,000 practising paediatricians.

First-year vocational school students and girls on the pill appear to be at average risk cases. The number of smokers in these groups is above-average compared with other adolescents.

The two groups, the author of the study, Ulrich Laaser of the German Institute for the Combating of Hygiene, told the congress, must be regarded as high-risk cases in terms of cardiovascular disorders.

Close to 60 per cent of girls on the pill also smoke. And completely healthy young people will feel or imagine themselves as smokers, if any, because of the cigarette packs they carry.

This leads to the conclusion that the transition to vocational schools is a hand-in-hand with an increased risk of becoming a cigarette smoker, because of the stress or because of the desire to fit in with other adolescents.

But smoking is only one of the factors in cardiovascular disorders. A number one killer in the Federal Republic of Germany is the heart.

Recent research, the congress told, indicated that health attitudes and patterns were acquired during childhood and not only during adolescence.

But relevant research is still in its infancy, which lends added weight to the Cologne study, subsidised by the Federal Health Ministry.

In addition to recording smoking habits, the scientists also recorded blood pressure, pulse, cholesterol levels, and the weight-height ratio (a measure of the proportion of the juveniles were overweight).

It turned out that 87 per cent of the adolescents remained in the top group even five years after their initial check.

In other words, people who are at risk in their youth remain so for many years to come.

Doctors therefore recommend preventive measures at an early age. Unfortunately, there are few surveys on diet and exercise patterns among children.

Still, the team that prepared the Cologne study found that German adolescents have an excessive salt intake (10 grams per person per day). In fact, even infants are given excessively salty food and develop a liking for salt.

Herr Laaser told the congress that recommendations to the industry to reduce the salt contents of baby food are now being prepared.

But he also said that preventive measures against cardiovascular disorders in adolescents were undertaken during the 1980s.

Gisela Amann
(Köln Stadt-Anzeiger, 23 September 1981)

MIGRANT WORKERS

Suicide often seems the only solution

an 18-year-old Turkish boy from Cologne, is one of 350,000 Turkish workers in Germany who are caught in the nationality trap.

There are times when he feels almost entirely like he belongs to his family's home country.

He had to solve his identity problem in a clear and deliberate distinction between his two lives, the German and the Turkish.

At home I never say anything about my experience at school or in my life. I do what my parents tell me to do.

He does not at school I hardly ever say anything about my parents; instead I talk with my friends.

It is not a showpiece foreigner, the boy of Uncle Tom featured on TV. He is a normal person with many problems.

Many people will feel or imagine themselves as smokers, if any, because of the cigarette packs they carry.

He has come to terms with his situation. He has few troubles, if any, but this is possibly hardly true. He is a teacher and has lived in Germany for 15 years.

He is in two cultures is a tall order. In an intellectual may pull it off. A Turkish agricultural engineer is also too. But many of their fellow countrymen fail to do so.

Stephanie von Frankenberg, a 28-year-old, has made a novel attempt to solve the problems of Gastarbeiter, or workers, as the migrants are called in German, encounter as they try to integrate.

Her subject at Bochum University is the integration among foreign workers in the Federal Republic of Germany as related in suicide bids.

It is convinced that by no means all suicide bids are a failed suicide; many are appeals for help to one's surroundings.

The interviewed would-be suicides in Cologne and found they saw no prospect of solving their conflict in socially acceptable ways.

The suicide bid was, on the one hand, a much-vaunted cry for help of the migrant. On the other it was a way of escape from worries and responsibilities for themselves and others for a moment.

It is unconsciously arranged in a way as to ensure that the attempt is not a fair chance of being unsuccessful in time to rescue them.

The method selected is usually a soft one, the heavy but not lethal dose of pills, not the more foolproof method of a revolver or a noose.

The survey deals mainly with the industrial region, where guest workers make up six per cent of the population.

At Duisburg, a typical Ruhr city that is almost entirely like to rid itself of the reputation of being a grey industrial town, Turkish live mainly among them.

They live in housing that was built, in the early days, for the factories where tenants had to work. These are city-centre areas where urban decay is as plain as a nose.

Nowhere is the life of Turks in Germany as clearly apparent as here, except perhaps in Kreuzberg, Berlin.

In Duisburg suburbs such as Marxloh and Meiderich, Bruckhausen, Hochfeld and Hüttenheim Turks have long made up over 40 per cent of the population.

In the under-18 age group there are more Turks than Germans. Many of the 52 patients Stephanie von Frankenberg interviewed came from this area.

With backing from a medical practitioner she had arranged with hospitals to be notified whenever a would-be suicide arrived so she could interview him in the ward as soon as possible.

"You have to interview them within three days," she says. "Then they are ready and willing to talk." After that they close up.

The problem is often a clash of generations in which teenage girls try to get their own way in opposition to their parents.

A typical case was that of an 18-year-old Turkish girl who had been in Germany for five years, was a factory worker and spoke fairly good German, certainly much better than her mother, for whom she had to translate.

At work she tried to keep abreast of German habits, chatting normally with German workmates, including the men. At home she lived in keeping with the strict family code.

Trouble started when her elder brother learnt that she had been chatting with a German male workmate. He waylaid the German outside the factory, had a fight with him and boxed his sister's ears in public.

She was so upset and ashamed that she took an overdose of sleeping pills. She well realised that her brother had done the right thing by Turkish standards.

She had overstepped the mark to a particularly serious extent because her parents had already arranged a marriage for her. She was to marry someone back in Turkey she had never seen.

The Italian girl who is No. 14 in Frau von Frankenberg's survey was 19 and had been in Germany since she was three.

She too spoke better German than Italian but her parents expected her to marry an Italian of their choosing. Unknown to her parents she had an affair

with a German and hoped to get pregnant by him to outsmart her parents.

One day he failed to turn up and she was afraid he might leave her and took an overdose of sleeping pills. She was unable to stand the discrepancy between the German view of life and the Italian Catholic morality of her family.

Yet she still felt somehow inferior because she was no longer a virgin and fancied she would no longer be able to find a husband.

"I would so like to be able to live like my classmates at school," said a 15-year-old Spanish girl who had just been rescued after a fifth suicide bid.

Pressure to conform at school was so strong she felt she just must wear jeans but her parents would hear nothing of the idea.

It is always much the same story and parents can be just as likely to attempt suicide as their children. A Sicilian mother of three aged 27 always seemed satisfied with her lot. Her problems did not start until her eldest son started school and she wanted to help him with his homework.

She suddenly came to realise how poorly equipped she was to cope with life in a country where she was unable to speak the language properly.

She sought refuge in suicide but the attempt was only temporarily going to outweigh her problems.

The division of the environment into two is usually the insuperable problem, the Bochum sociologist says. People try in vain to hold their own in two societies and lose their bearings.

Few would-be suicides complained of serious trouble with Germans that prompted their bid to end it all.

The suicide bid does not usually come early in their stay in Germany when acclimatisation is most difficult but after several years in the country.

The problems usually arise when the return home no longer looks like being some time soon, when the children no longer know their mother country, when the aim of earning money and returning home is no longer so clearly defined.

Frau von Frankenberg describes this state of affairs as the point at which a makeshift arrangement assumes permanent proportions.

It is a state in which minor problems can be enough to make the would-be suicide feel the situation defies solution.

Hanover sociologist Gerd Weiberg once interviewed guest workers in another connection and was told by a Yugoslav:

"You have never really left back home yet never really arrived here."

Gerd Kröncke
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 26 September 1981)

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(Rheinische Post, 26 September 1981)

More jobs for foreign school-leavers

RHEINISCHE POST

Bonn's Education Minister Björn Engholm (SPD) has urgently appealed to industry and the business community to pay more attention to vocational training facilities for young foreigners.

The integration of foreign residents was a problem that could only be solved on the spot in the fields, factories and workshops, he said. This presupposed the readiness of the business community to cooperate; Bonn could only run pilot projects to stimulate ideas.

Social Democrat Engholm told journalists in Bonn that training boosted the career prospects of foreign youngsters. It was also in industry's own interest, given that a shortage of skilled workers was likely to arise with falling birth rates.

Society could not, in any case, risk the social explosive that inevitably came into being when foreign youngsters ran an increasingly grave risk of joining the dole queue.

Herr Engholm, dealing with the initial results of a pilot project to train foreign youngsters with language difficulties and educational shortcomings, said three out of four foreign youngsters in Germany did not learn a trade.

The percentage among German youngsters of trades college age was a mere eight.

At present 37,000 foreign youngsters were undergoing vocational training or going to senior school, or 6,000 more than a year ago.

But over this period 40,000 more youngsters had settled in Germany, and if the trend continued it would be increasingly difficult to integrate them.

Turkish youngsters presented the worst integration problem, he said. Only nine per cent of them learnt a trade.

Integrating in German society was an enormous cultural leap for Turkish girls in particular, and cash alone would not solve the problem.

The spread of information as to why vocational training was so important was of fundamental importance. So was motivation.

The problem could not be solved in five or 10 years, Herr Engholm said. It would take generations.

His pilot scheme included 14 projects in six Länder to date. Bonn's aim was to prove that even youngsters with language difficulties and educational shortcomings could be satisfactorily trained and overcome some of their handicap during training.

Eighty companies training 420 young people were currently associated with the various schemes. Next year between 800 and 1,000 were to undergo training.

The jobs in which they were trained included mining, metalworking, wood-working, electrical engineering and retail salesmanship.

Between now and 1985/86 Bonn was investing DM13.8m in the various projects. In some cases companies and the Länder were also underwriting the scheme, the range of which was to be extended next year.

Pilot projects were intended to show how far foreign youngsters and their parents could be best persuaded of the importance of career qualifications.

dpa
(Rheinische Post, 26 September 1981)

■ MODERN LIVING

Alternative employment scheme keeps jobless juveniles out of trouble

Without JAS some of our boys would have landed in 'jail long ago,' says Hartmut Radke about *Jugendarbeit und Sozialpädagogik* (youth work and social pedagogy) or JAS for short.

He has been working for the organisation as a mechanic since its establishment in Hameln in 1975.

JAS, which aims to provide work for juveniles who are unemployed and cannot find apprenticeships, has come under the sponsorship of the Protestant Church.

Like some 40 similar organisations sponsored by the trade unions and churches in Lower Saxony, JAS wants to accustom jobless juveniles to regular working hours and a generally responsible way of life.

Since the JAS workshops are closed at the moment for the summer holidays there are now only three instead of 12 youngsters working under Radke's supervision. The workshop is in a decrepit former factory building.

Walter, Frank and Hermann, who work in the JAS carpentry shop, have volunteered, despite the holidays, to help out repairing some bicycles that are later to be used as JAS vehicles.

The mechanical workshop has specialised in repairing scrapped bikes and selling them.

Apart from its carpenter's shop and the mechanical workshop, JAS also runs a furniture removal business with its own small lorry.

Like on any other morning, the boys eat their breakfast with the supervisor. This is their opportunity to discuss not only their work but also their personal problems.

JAS teacher Hartmut Tegmeier considers this important as a means of teaching the boys to show up for work on time. Moreover, he says, many of the boys have no permanent home and breakfast is the only sound meal they get.

Organisations like JAS have tackled a problem that has become increasingly more grave in the past few years: youth unemployment.

Latest statistics present a bleak picture. There were 130,800 unemployed youngsters under 20 registered in August - 60 per cent up on August last year.

The increase in juvenile unemployment within the span of one month, from July to August this year, was 13 per cent in this age group alone.

Lower Saxony's general unemployment rate is 6.9 per cent and thus exceeds the national average of 5.5 per cent.

Here, there were 21,100 juveniles out of work in August (7.8 per cent) against only 5.2 per cent in the same month last year.

The pay at the JAS workshops is low. Costs include premises, machinery and staff, consisting of a teacher, the master mechanic and the master carpenter.

Though the general operating costs are paid by the Protestant Church and a special fund of Lower Saxony's Education Ministry, the hourly wage rarely exceeds DM3 to DM4 once earnings have been divided up according to the number of hours worked.

Says one of the boys: 'Sure, the pay is low. But to make up for it you don't have to put up with a boss who keeps breathing down your neck.'

'Here, they tell you exactly how to do

the job and they don't get sour if you just don't feel like working.'

Yet discipline at JAS is strict. Work begins at 8.30 a.m., but the boys must be at their work benches by 8.15.

Latecomers are barred from work for that day. And those who have not put in the minimum 18 working hours a week have their pay halved even for the hours they did put in.

But relations between the boys and their supervisors are almost those of buddies. As a result, Frank considers his instructor more of an older brother than a boss. 'I can tell him about my problems,' says Frank.

Frank, 19, has a background that is typical for the boys JAS and similar organisations look after:

Says he about himself: 'I was always pretty good at practical work. It's only with theory that I have problems.'

Frank is a dropout from both *Hauptschule* (the minimum compulsory schooling leading up to vocational training) and from vocational school.

It was a friend who took him to JAS when he was totally on his uppers. 'I would never have come here on my own,' says Frank.

Compared with Frank, Walter's educational background is pretty good. Put into an institution at the age of two, he completed school but broke off an ap-

prenticeship as a carpenter after only three months.

He describes the reasons as follows: 'No place to live, not enough money to keep going and trouble with the master.'

After leaving his apprenticeship, he tramped around, experimented with drugs and took on occasional work. Eventually, a JAS supervisor found him and talked him into 'dropping by sometime'.

For the past four months, Walter has been working at JAS 'to make a bit of money and because I couldn't find any other work.'

He is as happy as a sandboy with the bit of money he makes because he enjoys the work. In fact, he does not even collect his unemployment pay because, as he puts it, 'I know that with 1,000 marks in my pocket I wouldn't go back to work but would just hang around somewhere.'

Radke considers psychological help as important as teaching a trade. And he can provide more psychological help than the boys could get in a normal job because the JAS supervisors simply have more time for their boys.

Walter agrees. He considers his vocational training important but secondary. As he sees it, what matters is the 'new hope we get at JAS.'

Apprentices and the boss

excessive leisure time expectations.

Professor Kreutz also goes into the connection between the emotional state of apprentices and their political views. Only half the apprentices he surveyed consider the conventional parties (CDU/CSU, SPD and FDP) as being worthy of a vote.

The other half is pretty equally divided between followers of the environmentalists, those without a political opinion and those who do not consider themselves represented by any candidate standing for election.

Though three-quarters of the apprentices under review were proud of democracy, only one-third relate this feeling to politicians. Many are in fact ashamed of career politicians.

It also transpires that the followers of the environmentalist parties, unlike the majority of apprentices, do not feel that their work imposes a particular strain on them. On the contrary, most of their problems relate to leisure time activities.

It is this feeling of insecurity which is at the root of their sympathy for the environmentalists, for whom work is not everything.

What makes the environmentalists so attractive is their awareness of the negative consequences of modern technology in leisure time activities and the fact that work, production and economically rational actions are secondary in their concept.

Contrary to a widespread assumption, followers of the environmentalists rarely suffer from psychosomatic disorders such as headaches, dizziness, vomiting and stomach aches.

Asked about the success of JAS, Walter says: 'None of the boys who have got into a worse mess than they were in before. Many have found work and some have a regular apprenticeship.'

Walter estimates that about half the boys who have left JAS now have a job and 40 per cent are taking some form of training.

He puts the number of those only hanging around or wind up in jail at about 10 per cent.

Like most private projects of nature in Lower Saxony, JAS is part of the State Work Group for Jobless Youth. And like most of the other organisations it has had to struggle for financial survival.

A spokesman for the Work Group recently stressed that dependence on state funding and special programmes for less juveniles made it difficult to achieve any continuity in a project. Most of the time, he said, is spent chasing money.

JAS is no exception. Originally founded as a private organisation, it eventually came under the wing of the Protestant Church because it had no other way of raising the necessary DM150,000 a year which it now gets from the state and the Church. The organisation is now wholly Church-owned.

One of the reasons that has prompted Hartmut Tegmeier to give notice is that, as he puts it, 'Church patronage only made JAS financially better administered but all new ideas were stifled in the process.'

Norbert Korte
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 28 September 1981)

In search of the modern amateur

The IOC congress in Baden-Baden worth the DM7m NOC will fund to stage the Olympic marathon?

million marks to hear 135 representatives of the Olympic movement at a price to pay, especially when faced largely identical views.

at least three levels Baden-Baden brought about much-needed in an unexpectedly sweeping

definition of the amateur began to emerge. The war on waged set to be waged more earnestly. Advocates of more democratic Olympic movement gained ground.

more than could be said of to resist political pressure steadily than in the past, often religiously though the intention has been declared.

realistically, it cannot be re-promoted more than a well-meaning demonstration of intent. threats to boycott the Los Angeles Olympics, seriously though they taken, are not the acid test of internationalism.

at least, the Olympic left Baden-Baden stronger self-confident. Last year's boycott of Moscow Games evidently had effect.

were by no means surprised the Soviet Union and its allies in a negative mood, even showing signs of apathy and psychological or physical signs of compromise on the subject of amateur status.

husians have gradually extended influence on the International Committee to a point at which they rely on 25 per cent of the clubbing the squatters) have become attractive to the young because they are taking action to remedy shortcomings.

The attitudes of apprentices towards the world of work would be entitled to take foreigners are also not as generally as thus maintaining the advantage furnished. The cliché is that foreigners are rejected in direct proportion to the advantages enjoyed by state apprentices' own struggle to hold on to a job, when the foreigner is seen as a competitor.

Though apprentices who tend to be crimi- nate against foreigners are prone to psychosomatic disorders, xenophobia is most pronounced among those with an ambivalent relationship towards their work.

The author has also compared apprentices and university students in the same geographical region. He arrives at the startling conclusion that, by comparison, the apprentices are emotionally balanced.

They are generally happier and more successful than students. Yet psychosomatic disorders are more prevalent among apprentices.

According to Professor Kreutz, this could indicate that apprentices are more inclined to suppress their problems than are students.

Maybe so, but the comparison also shows that the apprentices are less likely skinned and self-pitying than university students.

Renate I. Miescher
(Nürnberg Nachrichten, 19 September 1981)



A model of the sports complex in Seoul proposed for the Olympic summer events in 1988. (Photo: Werek)

Summer Games in Seoul

'good choice'

Was it the nearby Baden-Baden casino that decided the IOC to run the risk of staging the 1988 summer Olympics in Seoul?

Or did the committee decide to show the world that neither political nor commercial considerations could shake its resolve?

In Seoul and Calgary the IOC has chosen, as so often in the past, venues for the 1988 games that were not exactly rated favourites beforehand.

That makes the choice more noteworthy. The IOC is keen to hold the Olympics in as many countries as possible, so it could hardly have made a better choice than Seoul.

South Korea has never hosted an Olympics, whereas Japan, if Nagoya had made the running, would have hosted its third.

The East Bloc is naturally unhappy at the accolade to the Chung regime staging the 1988 Olympics represents, but Seoul took the wind out of critics' sails by announcing that competitors from North Korea would be officially invited.

Both the IOC and Seoul can look forward to protest moves, naturally so as long as a military regime remains in power in South Korea.

The choice of Calgary for the winter Olympics was also a surprise after the difficulties encountered at Montreal and Lake Placid. But Calgary was an opportunity of demonstrating that the Olympic boycott had been forgotten, given that Canada had been one of the countries that boycotted Moscow. So in opting for Calgary the IOC showed it had finally put paid to the entire boycott affair.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 1 October 1981)

There could be no objection to spending part of the cash received on the association's general expenses, but the remainder should be paid to the individual athlete on retirement.

'Those who perform better put in more and deserve to earn more,' Bach said.

There was no way in the world to stop illicit payments to athletes, bypassing the associations. But that was not such a serious problem.

Athletes agreed that fully-fledged professionals ought not to be allowed to compete in the Olympics, just as they were opposed to head-to-toe advertising. Neither would prevail as long as athletes were offered a more tolerable alternative, he said.

But will Britain's Sebastian Coe, another at Baden-Baden, voluntarily see to it that his father breaks off relations with his American marketing manager? Probably not.

Rainer Olbert
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 26 September 1981)

The athletes have their own say

Two dozen athletes and 10 trainers from all over the world at Baden-Baden were the first ever to represent Olympic competitors at an IOC congress.

They were quick to appreciate the strength enjoyed by even such a small group and proved remarkably active in the course of such a few days.

The athletes promptly drew attention to themselves by demanding from the International Olympic Committee more time to speak at the congress.

This bid was an immediate success. They were promptly allowed six five-minute periods, not four, as originally assigned.

This IOC concession led to an incident that heightened the determination of the group to brook no interference.

A Soviet NOC member gatecrashed one of their preparatory meetings to demand for a Soviet athlete one of the two extra five-minute allocations they had been given.

'That put the Soviet Union in a bad position,' said fencer Thomas Bach, spokesman for the athletes on the German NOC.

It was up to the athletes themselves to decide who was to represent them on the rostrum, and they were determined no-one was going to exert pressure from outside their own group.

Bach, a Montreal gold medalist, was spokesman for a group set up to draft a viewpoint on the latest version of Rule 26 of the IOC Charter, dealing with amateur status.

'We prefer an arrangement involving both the international sports associations and the IOC,' he said.

'First the associations should be allowed to arrive at a code in keeping with their requirements. Then the IOC should decide whether or not to give its seal of Olympic approval.'

This, he added, presupposed that the IOC was prepared to accept a wide framework within which the special requirements of individual associations might be accommodated.

The revised version of Rule 26 provides for payments to athletes via their association only.

'There can be no objection to that,' Bach said, 'as long as the associations are prepared to make regular grants to athletes to enable them to lead normal lives.'

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(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 26 September 1981)



(Cartoon: Fritz Wolf from exhibition of German sports caricatures in Baden-Baden)